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The Army's EO Program and Policies



Lesson 23: System Victim Focus

Introduction

Somewhere in the U.S.A.

(practical exercise)

USING THE LIST BELOW, RANK THE

CHARACTERS FROM 1 TO 5, IN ORDER OF THEIR
RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE DEATH OF THE WIFE.

“1” BEING THE MOST RESPONSIBLE & “5” BEING
THE LEAST.

WIFE

OWNER

GOVERNOR

FRIEND

LOVER



Overview

- Define Victim Focus
- Process of Blaming the Victim
- Factors that Promote Victim Focus
- Define System Focus
- Methods to Prevent Victim Focus



Victim Focus

A reactive problem-solving approach which narrowly defines social problems in terms of the victims.



Victim Focus

- Reactive Problem-Solving
- Sees the victim as the cause
- Focuses on “Fixing” the victim
- Narrow approach to problem solving



Steps in Blaming the Victim

- Identify a Social Problem
- Study those affected & how they are different
- Define differences as the cause
- Assign someone to correct the differences



Social Factors that Promote Victim Focus

- Unequal Status
- Distortions of Reality
- Acceptance of Victimization



System Focus Approach

- A Proactive Problem-Solving
- Approach which broadly defines
- Social problems as being part of, or caused by, System, Organization, Society, or Community
- Evaluates how system can be improved to prevent future problems



Why System Focus is Not Commonly Used

- Not a Quick Fix
- Victim Desires Conformity
- Self-Perpetuating Process



Methods to Prevent Victim Focus

- Dialogue
- Assessment & Feedback



Summary

- Defined Victim Focus
- Discussed Process of Blaming the Victim
- Identified Factors that Promote Victim Focus
- Defined System Focus
- Discussed Methods to Prevent Victim Focus

